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The American Numismatic and Archæological Society of New York.

Founded 1857—Incorporated 1865.

CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS.

THE Society desiring to collect and preserve materials in order to enable the Historiographer to prepare and read before it, upon the demise of any member, a memorial of his life, these queries are forwarded to you with the earnest request that they may be answered *in extenso*, and returned without delay.

QUESTIONS.

1 What is your full name? *Answer.* Isaac-Francis Wood *
the 1st for my late Father Isaac Wood M.D.
" 2d " his friend John Wakefield Francis M.D.
2 of the Founders (6) of the "N.Y. Academy of Medicine"

2. What were the names of your parents? *A.* Isaac Wood, M.D. son of Samuel Wood Founder of the "N.Y. Institution for the Blind") and Margaret-Morrell née Hicks

3. What were the names of your grandparents? *A.* Paternal, Samuel Wood born at Oyster Bay & Mary Searing of Searingtown L.I.
Maternal, John Hicks, and Phoebe Woolley of L.I. Hempstead & Jericho

4. When and where were you born? *A.* 98 (old no.) East-Broadway bet. Market and Pike Sts, 7th Ward*, N.Y. City, July 15th 1841.
* Known as the "Quaker Ward" for many years, now slightly Jewish.

5. If you are married, give the maiden name of your wife, and her residence, the names of her parents, the date of your marriage, and the place where you were married? *A.* Sarah-E. Bowne, 177 Second Ave N.Y. (at the time) 1st d. of Richard-Hartshorne Bowne (direct descendant of John Bowne of "Bowne-House" Flushing L.I. son of Thomas B. of Matlock, Derbyshire, O.Engd. & Richard Hartshorne of Hathern Leicestershire & Highlands N.J.) and of Emily-Louisa 3rd d. of Thomas Cock M.D. Pres. Coll of Phys & Surg. N.Y.
Married by Rev. Alex. Vinton D.D. at "St. Mark's-Church-in the Bowery" Apl. 20th 1869.

6. If you have had any children, give their names in the order of their birth. *A.* No chickens successfully hatched — the right sort of "incubator" dont appear to have been thus far invented.

* The baptismal name (so called, being of Quaker stock I was not baptized) was Isaac Francis Augustus, the latter being a fancy handle I dropped many years ago, naming the Isaac after my father's death

7. If any member of your family is deceased, give the name and date of death. *A.* My mother-in-law is still very much alive!

8. State where you were brought up and educated. *A.* Imprimis, Kimber's Friends' Boarding School (& Stables?) Flushing L. I. 2nd 13th St. Pub. Sch. N.Y. – then private Academy of the late Prof. Chas. Murray Nairne of Col. Coll. N.Y. – finally Haverford College, Pa. – & partially at Coll. of Phys. & Surg. & Bellevue Med. Coll. N.Y.

9. If you were graduated by any college, give the name and class. *A.* Haverford College Pa. as B.A., Class 1862.

10. State what degrees, if any, have been conferred, and by whom. *A.* If this relates to degree of intoxication, being a very modest man I must decline to answer.

11. State your occupation; and if you are a member of any of the learned professions. *A.* Past tense 1st medical book publishing, 2nd banker & broker, Present "banked" & "broke" & looking after a 2 acre farm with an assortment of chicken coops. Profess nothing!

12. If you have held any public office, either Municipal, State or Federal, state what, when, and for how long. *A.* Never! not even an Jachmeistic Aldermancy

13. If you have been connected with any corporations, or other societies, state in what manner. *A.* Sundry Historical, Numismatic, Genealogical, Bible, Blind, Dispensaries, etc. principally as a "high private"!

14. If you have written any book, pamphlet or article which has been printed, state when and where published, and give titles in full, and please furnish copies to the Library of the Society. *A.* Have never been sufficient the "enemy" of any man to give him a chance in the book line & sundry articles of no use.

15. If any biographical sketch of you or history of your family has been printed, please refer to it? *A.* Don't know of any — hope to gracious I never shall

16. Give in detail any incidents which have gone to make up the history of your life; acquaintance with ~~d~~istinguished men, etc.; in fact, everything that should be presented in a memorial of your life. *A.*

x "very large" as the phrenologists say

As to incidents — well the principal one is perhaps an inborn & inveterate enthusiasm for numismatic collecting & medal-issuing which has amounted to worse than nothing, hence any memorial would be of the same 'epithetage'

17. If any of your ancestors or descendants have held important positions of honor or trust, please give details. *A.* My descendants not having yet had an opportunity to trace (for obvious reasons) their connection with the Gorilla I can't particularize. My immediate ancestor (Papa) & his before him were highly esteemed citizens largely interested in benevolent & medical institutions & were Founder, Organizer & President or other officers of such in N.Y. but I presume you want municipal State or National relationships,

18. If you can give the name of the first ancestor of the family in this country, please do so. *A.* (Please rise to explain)

Joseph ~~Thomas~~ Wood of England somewhere in Gloucestershire — I forget. & the family chart is in the hands of another branch. Though fond of genealogy I have neglected this of late,

NOTE.—Please also send to the Society, for its Album, a photographic likeness of yourself, with your autograph beneath it, if you have not already done so; and donations of anything you may have written will be particularly x acceptable, as well as contributions germane to its Library and Cabinets.

HISTORIOGRAPHER,

American Numismatic and Archæological Society,

ROOM 25, N. Y. UNIVERSITY BUILDING, WASHINGTON SQUARE, NEW YORK CITY.

x I will hunt you up a spare "phizamajig" if I can, but I have a pet aversion to being "pictured" & haven't sat to anything except a good dinner & a bottle of wine with satisfaction for many years.

Wood

"Hard-House"
St. George's Ave
Rahway, N.J. '86/4/18

Dear Sir)

I recd. this (then) blank to fill up some time ago.
Being a person of no importance whatsoever it struck me as futile to give it particular heed, but remembering that years ago (when Secretary I believe of the then simply Numismatic Society) I suggested a portrait and autograph album of the members — I relented. I trust you will pardon the irreverence displayed in the answers — it is right for every Society to have a Record of the members — but my life has been so insignificant and useless — in fact such a bitter failure — that perhaps the joking only conceals the pain. That I have tried hard in times past to serve the Society as a Secy. & after as Librarian, & always as a member, is I hope some excuse for my having been born & existed to date.

Yours truly Isaac F. Wood

P.S. If you want further details let me know